

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A composition, comprising:
2 a first salt of a first metal;
3 a second salt of a second metal;
4 a third salt of a rare earth metal,
5 wherein at least one of the first, second and third salts comprises a trifluoroacetate
6 and the composition has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-3} molar.
- 1 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition has a total free acid
2 concentration of less than about 1×10^{-5} molar.
- 1 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition has a total free acid
2 concentration of about 1×10^{-7} molar.
- 1 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition has a mole ratio of
2 fluorine to the second metal of at least about two.
- 1 5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition has a mole ratio of
2 fluorine to the second metal of from about two to about 18.5.
- 1 6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition has a mole ratio of
2 fluorine to the second metal of from about two to about 10.

1 7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the first metal comprises copper and
2 the second metal is selected from the group consisting of barium, strontium and calcium.

1 8. The composition of claim 7, wherein the rare earth metal comprises
2 yttrium.

1 9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the first metal comprises copper, the
2 second metal comprises barium and the third metal comprises yttrium.

1 10. The composition of claim 9, wherein a ratio of copper atoms to barium
2 atoms to yttrium atoms contained in the solution is about 3:2:1.

1 11. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is disposed on a
2 surface of a layer.

1 12. The composition of claim 11, wherein the layer comprises a material
2 selected from the group consisting of a substrate, a buffer layer and a superconductor layer.

1 13. The composition of claim 1, further comprising water, wherein the
2 composition has a water content of less than about 50 volume percent.

1 14. The composition of claim 13, wherein the water content is less than about
2 35 volume percent.

1 15. The composition of claim 13, wherein the water content is less than about
2 25 volume percent.

1 16. The composition of claim 1, wherein at least two of the first, second and
2 third salts comprises trifluoroacetates.

1 17. The composition of claim 1, wherein each of the first, second and third
2 salts comprise trifluoroacetates.

1 18. A composition, comprising:
2 a first salt of a first metal;
3 a second salt of a second metal;
4 a third salt of a rare earth metal,
5 wherein at least one of the first, second and third salts comprises a trifluoroacetate
6 and the composition has a mole ratio of fluorine to the second metal of from about two to
7 about 18.5.

1 19. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition has a mole ratio of
2 fluorine to the second metal of from about two to about 10.

1 20. The composition of claim 18, wherein the first metal comprises copper
2 and the second metal is selected from the group consisting of barium, strontium and calcium.

1 21. The composition of claim 20, wherein the rare earth metal comprises
2 yttrium.

1 22. The composition of claim 18, wherein the first metal comprises copper,
2 the second metal comprises barium and the third metal comprises yttrium.

1 23. The composition of claim 22, wherein a ratio of copper atoms to barium
2 atoms to yttrium atoms contained in the solution is about 3:2:1.

1 24. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition is disposed on a
2 surface of layer.

1 25. The composition of claim 24, wherein the layer comprises a material
2 selected from the group consisting of a substrate, a buffer layer and a superconductor layer.

1 26. The composition of claim 18, further comprising water, wherein the
2 composition has a water content of less than about 50 volume percent.

1 27. The composition of claim 26, wherein the water content is less than about
2 35 volume percent.

1 28. The composition of claim 26, wherein the water content is less than about
2 25 volume percent.

1 29. The composition of claim 18, wherein at least two of the first, second and
2 third salts comprises trifluoroacetates.

1 30. The composition of claim 18, wherein each of the first, second and third
2 salts comprise trifluoroacetates.

1 31. A method, comprising:
2 combining a first solution with a compound containing a trifluoroacetate group to
3 form a second solution, the first solution comprising a first soluble compound of a first metal,
4 a second soluble compound of a second metal and a third soluble compound of a rare earth
5 metal.

1 32. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound is selected
2 so that the second solution has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-3} molar.

1 33. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound is selected
2 so that the second solution has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-5} molar.

1 34. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound is selected
2 so that the second solution has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-7} molar.

1 35. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound combined
2 with the first solution is selected so that the second solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the
3 second metal of at least about two.

1 36. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound combined
2 with the first solution is selected so that the second solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the
3 second metal of from about two to about 18.5.

1 37. The method of claim 31, wherein the amount of the compound combined
2 with the first solution is selected so that the second solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the
3 second metal of from about two to about 10.

1 38. The method of claim 31, wherein the first metal comprises copper and the
2 second metal is selected from the group consisting of barium, strontium and calcium.

1 39. The method of claim 38, wherein the rare earth metal comprises yttrium.

1 40. The method of claim 31, wherein the method is performed without
2 refluxing the first solution or the second solution.

1 41. The method of claim 31, wherein the second solution comprises a salt of at
2 least one of the rare earth, first and second metals.

1 42. The method of claim 31, wherein the second solution comprises a salt of at
2 least two of the rare earth, first and second metals.

1 43. The method of claim 31, wherein the second solution comprises a salt of
2 each of the rare earth, first and second metals.

1 44. The method of claim 31, wherein the compound comprises trifluoroacetic
2 acid.

1 45. A method, comprising:
2 combining with a solvent a first compound of a first metal, a second compound of
3 a second metal and a third compound of a rare earth metal to form a solution, the first, second
4 and third compounds being soluble in the solvent,

5 wherein at least one of the first, second and third compounds comprises a
6 trifluoroacetate salt.

1 46. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the trifluoroacetate salt is
2 selected so that the solution has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-3}
3 molar.

1 47. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the trifluoroacetate salt is
2 selected so that the solution has a total free acid concentration of less than about 1×10^{-5}
3 molar.

1 48. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the at least one
2 trifluoroacetate salt is selected so that the solution has a total free acid concentration of less
3 than about 1×10^{-7} molar.

1 49. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the at least one
2 trifluoroacetate salt is selected so that the solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the second
3 metal of at least about two.

1 50. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the at least one
2 trifluoroacetate salt is selected so that the solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the second
3 metal of from about two to about 18.5.

1 51. The method of claim 45, wherein the amount of the compound combined
2 with the first solution is selected so that the second solution has a mole ratio of fluorine to the
3 second metal of from about two to about 10.

1 52. The method of claim 45, wherein the first metal comprises copper and the
2 second metal is selected from the group consisting of barium, strontium and calcium.

1 53. The method of claim 52, wherein the rare earth metal comprises yttrium.

1 54. The method of claim 45, wherein the method is performed without
2 refluxing the solution.

1 55. The method of claim 45, wherein the solution comprises a trifluoroacetate
2 of at least two of the rare earth, first and second metals.

1 56. The method of claim 45, wherein the solution comprises a trifluoroacetate
2 of each of the rare earth, first and second metals.

1 57. A multi-layer article, comprising:
2 a first superconductor material layer having a surface; and
3 a second superconductor material layer disposed on the surface of the first
4 superconductor material layer.

1 58. The multi-layer article of claim 57, wherein the first and second
2 superconductor material layers have a combined thickness of at least about one micron and a
3 critical current density of at least about 5×10^5 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 59. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the combined thickness is at
2 least about two microns.

1 60. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the combined thickness is at
2 least about three microns.

1 61. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the combined thickness is at
2 least about four microns.

1 62. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the combined thickness is at
2 least about five microns.

1 63. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the combined thickness is at
2 least about six microns.

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1 64. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the critical current density is
2 at least about 1×10^6 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 70. The multi-layer article of claim 58, wherein the critical current density is
2 at least about 2×10^6 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 71. A method of making a multi-layer article, comprising:
2 coating a precursor solution of a second superconductor material on a surface of a
3 first superconductor material; and
4 treating the precursor solution of the second superconductor material to form a
5 layer of the second superconductor material disposed on the surface of the first
6 superconductor material.

1 72. The method of claim 71, wherein the first and second superconductor
2 material layers have a combined thickness of at least about one micron and a critical current
3 density of at least about 5×10^5 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 73. The method of claim 71, wherein the combined thickness is at least about
2 two microns.

1 74. The method of claim 71, wherein the combined thickness is at least about
2 three microns.

1 75. The method of claim 71, wherein the combined thickness is at least about
2 four microns.

1 76. The method of claim 71, wherein the combined thickness is at least about
2 five microns.

1 77. The method of claim 71, wherein the combined thickness is at least about
2 six microns.

1 78. The method of claim 72, wherein the critical current density is at least
2 about 1×10^6 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 79. The method of claim 72, wherein the critical current density is at least
2 about 2×10^6 Amperes per square centimeter.

1 80. An article, comprising:
2 a first layer of superconductor material; and
3 a second layer of superconductor material different than the first layer of
4 superconductor material.

1 81. The article of claim 80, wherein first layer of superconductor material has
2 a thickness of less than about 0.5 micron.

1 82. The article of claim 80, wherein first layer of superconductor material has
2 a thickness of less than about 0.2 micron.

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1 83. The article of claim 80, wherein first layer of superconductor material has
2 a thickness of from about 0.05 micron to about 0.2 micron.

1 84. The article of claim 80, wherein second layer of superconductor material
2 has a thickness of at least about one micron.

1 85. The article of claim 84, wherein second layer of superconductor material
2 has a thickness of at less than about 10 microns.

1 86. The article of claim 80, wherein second layer of superconductor material
2 has a thickness of from about 4 microns to about 10 microns.

1 87. The article of claim 80, wherein a combined thickness of the first and
2 second layers of superconductor material is at least about one micron.

1 88. The article of claim 80, wherein a combined thickness of the first and
2 second layers of superconductor material is at least about two microns.

1 89. The article of claim 80, wherein a combined thickness of the first and
2 second layers of superconductor material is at least about four microns.

1 90. The article of claim 80, wherein a combined thickness of the first and
2 second layers of superconductor material is from about four microns to about 10 microns.

1 91. The article of claim 80, wherein the first and second layers of
2 superconductor material have a combined critical current density of at least about 5×10^5
3 Amperes per square centimeter as determined by transport measurement at 77K in self field
4 using a one microVolt per centimeter criterion.

1 92. The article of claim 80, wherein the first and second layers of
2 superconductor material have a combined critical current density of at least about 1×10^6
3 Amperes per square centimeter as determined by transport measurement at 77K in self field
4 using a one microVolt per centimeter criterion.

1 93. The article of claim 80, wherein the first and second layers of
2 superconductor material have a combined critical current density of at least about 2×10^6
3 Amperes per square centimeter as determined by transport measurement at 77K in self field
4 using a one microVolt per centimeter criterion.

1 94. The article of claim 80, wherein the second layer of superconductor
2 material is disposed on a surface of the first layer of superconductor material.

1 95. The article of claim 80, wherein the first and second layers of
2 superconductor material comprise the same superconductor material.

1 96. The article of claim 95, wherein the same superconductor material
2 comprise a REBCO superconductor material.

1 97. The article of claim 95, wherein the same superconductor material
2 comprises a YBCO superconductor material.

1 98. The article of claim 97, wherein the YBCO superconductor material
2 comprises $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-x}$.

1 99. The article of claim 80, wherein the first and second layers of
2 superconductor material comprise different superconductor materials.

1 100. The article of claim 80, further comprising a third layer of superconductor
2 material different than the first and second layers of superconductor material.

1 101. The article of claim 80, further comprising a substrate.

1 102. The article of claim 101, further comprising a buffer layer stack.

1 103. The article of claim 102, wherein the buffer layer stack is disposed on a
2 surface of the substrate, the first layer of superconductor material is disposed on a surface of
3 the buffer layer stack, and the second layer of superconductor material is disposed on a
4 surface of the surface of the first layer of superconductor material.

1 104. The article of claim 103, wherein the buffer layer stack comprises one
2 buffer layer.

1 105. The article of claim 104, wherein the buffer layer stack comprises more
2 than one buffer layer.

1 106. The article of claim 80, further comprising a substrate, wherein the first
2 layer of superconductor material is disposed on a surface of the substrate, and the second
3 layer of superconductor material is disposed on a surface of the first layer of superconductor
4 material.

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